

LOCAL MATTERS.

TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS.—We would call the attention of those who are indebted to us that, owing to the country, the old year is not yet closed, and our accounts are not yet settled. The price of subscription is not large, and we are sure that our subscribers will not be missed from the list. The first of January has been celebrated as a day set apart for closing old accounts, and we would not have our friends depart from this time-honored custom. Money is the motive power of every enterprise, and newspapers are no exception, and we respectfully ask our country subscribers to cash up and commence the new year with a clear record.

CHARLESTON AND SAVANNAH RAILROAD.—At a meeting of the Directors of the Savannah and Charleston Railroad Company, held yesterday, Mr. John S. Ryan was elected General Superintendent.

THE FARMER FOR FEBRUARY, has been sent us by the publishers, Messrs. ELLIOTT & BROWN, of Richmond. Contents varied and interesting, as usual.

THE NEW CASSETTE is a handsome collection of sacred music, edited and published by Prof. G. O. ROBINSON. For sale by Mr. H. STOLING. Many of the best songs in this Cassette are, composed by the author, and are of a high order of merit.

MAISON'S COURT, January 11.—The business this morning was unimportant, and consequently we have only to content ourselves with expressing gratification at the continued good order with which the city is blessed.

THE ROYAL HOSPITAL, for nearly two years under military occupation, we are glad to learn, will, in the last part of the year, be restored to its right, the Trustees appointed by the Medical Society of South Carolina. The Hospital is now open for the reception of patients. Dr. Wm. C. HORNBECK is the Surgeon, and Dr. J. Ford PARSONS the Physician of the institution.

THE FERNANDA (Fla.) Courier says: "We learn from persons living in the interior that the tide of emigration to this State has not yet subsided. A gentleman informed us, a few days since, that he attended twenty-seven wagons in one company, containing emigrants and their household goods, all bound for Marion County. The most of these families are from South Carolina."

DEATH OF AN EXPERIENCED SHIPMASTER.—The Philadelphia press publishes a report of the arrival before this city of a schooner *Alba*, from Boston, and it is stated that her captain and first officer had been washed overboard and lost. This unfortunate accident has deprived of life Capt. REUBEN ADAMS, who, for nearly twenty years, has been sailing out of this port, principally in the Philadelphia trade. Capt. ADAMS was a competent officer, and as a friend was generous and amiable, with a heart large enough at all times to induce him to afford his aid to the friendless and unfortunate.

IMPROVEMENT.—The paving of East Bay has awakened an emulation among the denizens of the city, and they have commenced operations by depositing several cart loads of cobble stones on the street. So far Atlantic Wharf is the only one thus blest; but the good effects of this dressing, when once seen, will be soon appreciated, and the other localities will not be backward in availing themselves of it. The last rains have made the mud thicker, deeper and slushier than it has ever been for years, and harsh measures were necessary to restore the streets to a proper state of dignity. The stones are of a fine quality, and foot passengers are no longer liable to the danger of swamping or falling. Atlantic Wharf has always been foremost in the march of improvement, and the recent measures they have adopted to rescue their name from forgetfulness, show that they have not retrograded.

SERIOUS ACCIDENT.—Mr. C. F. B. BREMER, a compositor of this office, while passing through the composing room last night, with a lighted candle in his hand, inadvertently walked to an open trap-door and fell through it. He was severely injured, and his wounds were dressed by Dr. ROBERTSON. The nature of the fracture was such that it occasioned intense pain, and will require the greatest care to perfect a cure. It is fortunate that Mr. BREMER only glanced upon the press, for if he had fallen upon its inequalities and projections his death would have been instant. There are few types who were not well acquainted with Mr. BREMER. His genial humor and friendly manner made him many friends, and his unfortunate accident will be universally deplored.

EXORATION.—The Land of Flowers, as of old, is still the El Dorado of the Peninsular State, and apparently still none of her attractions. The sons of the South, influenced by inducements offered them, or dazzled by dreams of bananas and other spurious riches, are flocking to that land of promise in hordes. Florida papers speak glowingly of the advantages to be obtained by this emigration, and are exultant over the increase to their laboring classes. By far the larger number of these emigrants come from South Carolina, and principally from the upper districts, and the papers from those sections are "exuberant" in their eulogies. Nearly every household that leaves here for Florida carries several hundred of these dusky travelers, and the cry is "still they go." On their last trips the *Dictator* and *Emancipator* carried about 400 each to the flowery paradise, and the same number left last night on the *Dictator*. Africa is evidently on the *qui vive*, and Florida having stretched out her hand, the summons is gladly obeyed.

"Variety is the spice of life," and Africa's sons evidently believe the proverb, for the travelers are in the highest spirits, and anticipate unnumbered blessings to result from their move. We hope they will never regret it, and that their future may be as pleasant as the time they spent in the old plantation home.

MAN TRAPS.—In olden times these diabolical inventions were considered necessary to keep intruders at a distance and to preserve property from poachers; but with all their ingenuity, our fathers were never capable of constructing pits in the road that would deceive and entrap even those who walked boldly and unaccompanied, and who were not accompanied by a dog. The march of improvement has left to the present generation to bring the system of pitfalls to a science, compared to which all former efforts are as child's play. The great fire of '61 afforded an excellent opportunity to develop and exhibit this science. Formerly, as if ashamed of their deeds, the owners of these pits covered them with a grating, which was some protection to the passerby; but, alas! old things have passed away, and under the new regime these open cellars confront us boldly, and require a thorough knowledge of the topography of the region to pass through unscathed.

FAYNE and PARKER's plots are now of no avail, and unless the city authorities would have the burial district surveyed and huge crosses or some other appropriate symbol (gas lamps, for instance) erected to warn the unwary, the death of items will not long continue. It is true that the most objectionable of these openings have been filled up, but it has been done hurriedly, and the filling is still rather sudden for those who are not fond of excitement.

As a gymnastic performance (these involuntary movements might be so termed), and indeed do afford a relief to the mind, it is a pity that it is so commonly told "it is better to grin than to growl." Even the old proverb to "look before you leap" is so much wholesome advice thrown away—far, in the gloom of night, the few gas lamps only shine like the *ignis fatuus*, and lure the traveler to his doom. We have heard it stated that our City Fathers design applying the "multiplying" principle to their street lamps, and it is ardently hoped by the cellar sufferers that, in order to test it thoroughly, they will increase the number of lights.

Our ways were never ways of pleasantness, but now they are worse than a blind path, and are everywhere every moment to be hurled into some cavernous space, where our cries will not be heard by the distant watchman, and there will be no arm to save. The Board of Health should at once take the matter in hand, or the bills of mortality will soon be troubled, and though the patent arms and legs on exhibition in King street are perfect models, yet "distance lends enchantment to the view," and

we would prefer wearing those we brought into the world with us. In consideration of these circumstances, and especially that it is very distasteful for those who have been in "the imminent deadly breach" to come home and die by falling in a ditch, we would call the attention of the authorities to the distributable condition of some of the sidewalks, and pray, in behalf of bruised and shattered humanity, that they be built on a level principle; the present undulations being neither picturesque or agreeable.

PEDESTRIANISM.—By another notice, it will be seen that Mr. JOHN SHEPARD, who has already made his mark by walking one hundred miles in one hundred hours, now proposes to undertake the herculean task of walking one thousand miles in one thousand hours. As the last performance was a success, and his exertions, he has decided, according to the rules of sporting men, to go in training for this momentous enterprise. The programme for the one thousand mile tramp will be to walk one mile in every hour, and if the performer only occupies ten minutes to the mile, the remainder of the hour is at his disposal. If he is a sensible man he will manage it so as to have some portion of the night for sleep, and by that means can accomplish his self-imposed task without much difficulty.

A WONDERFUL MICROSCOPE.—The editor of the New York Sunday School Advocate (Rev. DANIEL WISE, D. D.) says:

The simplicity, cheapness, and great magnifying power of the celebrated TRIP MICROSCOPE, struck me with surprise. When I was examining a fly's eye by its aid, and was struck with wonder at the light and power of the instrument, which is displayed in its structure. When I saw a statement in an advertisement that this microscope magnified one hundred diameters, or ten thousand times, and could be bought for \$2.50, I thought it was one of the many humbugs of the hour, for I had paid \$20 for a microscope not long before. But now I find it to be a really valuable instrument, which I should like to see introduced into the families of our readers, in place of the manifold useless toys, such as diamonds, or ten thousand things, which could be bought for \$2.50, I thought it was one of the many humbugs of the hour, for I had paid \$20 for a microscope not long before. 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